

USAID SUPPORT: CHUQUISACA

Through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Government has a comprehensive assistance program that supports the Bolivian Government's National Development Plan.



A chili pepper producer from rural Chuquisaca proudly shows his product prior to sale at an international hot chili pepper festival, funded by USAID and sponsored by the local producers' association

Through its official foreign assistance agency, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Government supports several development initiatives in the department of Chuquisaca. Projects seek to reduce poverty through economic growth generated by enterprise development, increased productivity and improved access to health care for the poor. USAID programs support Bolivian efforts to create opportunities and improve lives for marginalized populations, promoting their social and economic inclusion.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR FARM FAMILIES

Some of Bolivia's poorest municipalities are located in the Department of Chuquisaca. Working with the Bolivian institution Valleys Foundation (Fundación Valles), small farmers associations and local governments, USAID supports the Government of Bolivia's National Development Plan in Chuquisaca by improving the production of hot chili peppers, oregano, other spices, table grapes, peanuts and onions. As a result, over 8,500 families from the valleys of Chuquisaca are producing and exporting high quality products to international markets. Using new technologies and organic certification to increase efficiency and improve quality, Bolivian farmers and their families are accessing new niche markets, growing their businesses, and increasing incomes.

IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF BOLIVIANS

USAID seeks to improve the health of underserved Bolivians by increasing access to quality health services through the strengthening of public and NGO health facilities and networks. The program supports the Ministry of Health's policy of extending services to rural areas, with a special focus on family and community health.

In Chuquisaca, the program supports training, technical assistance and provision of equipment to enhance the quality of health services related to maternal and child health; emergency obstetric and neonatal care; and for the prevention, treatment and control of infectious diseases, including HIV; as well as to build the capacity of regional and municipal health authorities to manage the health system.

In selected municipalities the program supports a network of health volunteers who focus on health education and promotion activities, and facilitate community efforts to identify and solve local health problems.

USAID/Bolivia: working together

USAID has historically supported a housing improvement project with the regional government and local municipalities to reduce the incidence of Chagas disease.

In coordination with local governments, USAID has a program aimed at increasing access to quality reproductive health services for adolescents through youth-defined and youth-led initiatives that promote responsible behavior. In addition, with the assistance of USAID, the Bolivian NGO, CIES, is directly providing a range of health services to the people of Chuquisaca.

USAID has also managed a Municipal Matching Fund to help local governments make investments that will improve the health status of their constituents.

COMMUNITY FUND

Through the Community Development Activity Fund, USAID supports rural communities with people-level impact development activities. This initiative implements small self-help projects in rsponse to the needs of low-income communities in urban and rural areas.

The projects have a people-to-people approach and include substantial input from local communities. In Chuquisaca, USAID has provided support for rural schools and an elderly center.